Woodlee, New Bedford Oct. 11th 1845

My dear friend,

I received your very kind billet this day by the hands of Debora, and if you thought it necessary to apologize for addressing me in the behalf of the great cause in which you are so devotedly engaged, what must be my excuse in taking advantage of the opportunity to address you a formidable letter trusting alone to the kindness of your heart I write on.

Will you allow me, in no spirit of adulation, to express my admiration at your long continued and still unabated exertions in that great and humane cause, the abolition of our Slavery. For years you have given your time and strength to this great object. To such delinquents as myself, I assure you, it administers a strong reproof. But I should notice your request as to the literary and pecuniary department of the Liberty Bell. Therewith is close five dollars as pecuniary and as it regards the literary, if I can write anything worthy of a place in said forthcoming volume

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volume I shall be most happy to do. I have some lines in blank verse, say about one hundred, addressed to Wm Lloyd Garrison, which if suitable I would contribute. I shall feel no displeasure at their rejection, if not liked.

Allow me to express my warmest sympathy for you in your great exertions at this time for the Bazaar your lot may well unwind you of a recent Atlas of burthened memory. I trust they are not altogether unappreciated by every true friend of the cause.

I often see Lizzy and your sisters Caroline and Debora. Mrs R as well as myself are very fond of Lizzy – she has visited us a few times since our removal to Woodlee. Caroline and Debora have become quite necessary to our comfort – we have but few acquaintances, and they being such as we desire we seek them often. I shall probably attend the gathering "at the close of the year" and hope Mrs R. will be able to accompany me, but it is quite uncertain as it is difficult for us both to leave home at a time on account of our young children. I want very much to see you and the young ~~ladies~~ Emma Anne & Lucia. I hope that you will ~~some time~~ visit us at Woodlee. It would give me great pleasure to

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reciprocate your kindnesses to me. We have some very pleasant places in our vicinity, of which perhaps C & I have spoken to you.

Mrs Foster has been in New Bedford lately with her son & Miss Cabot as you are undoubtedly aware — we exchanged calls — She is a very lovely and interesting woman. I affiliate strongly with her warm heart. I have hardly seen a being since the death of my own dear mother, for whom I have felt such peculiar respect.

Mrs Ricketson wishes me to express her thanks for your extended welcome to the Fair.

Please remember me affectionately to your sisters Emma, Lucia, & Anne.

Believe me my dear Madam

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Ricketson.

Mrs M. W. Chapman

P.S. Since writing the above I have consulted with Caroline about the lines to Garrison — she thinks they would not be altogether appropriate as many similar things have been done, and I gladly yield to her superiority (who I consider a perfect oracle)

Gil 11.45

D. Riketson.

MS.A.9.2.21.67